

"DON'T WEAKEN" AN UNUSUAL COMEDY

Power of Suggestion Plays a Very Important Part.

ALSO RAISES QUESTIONS

Some Good Acting in "Optimistic" Play at Maxine Elliott Theatre.

"Don't Weaken"—At the Maxine Elliott Theatre.

The audience last night at the Maxine Elliott Theatre cracked like a pack of treacherers when "Don't Weaken," a farce in three acts, was exposed to its enthusiastic gaze. Walter Hackett called his play "an optimistic comedy," and the careless spectators seemed to fall into the author's hopeful mood. May future gatherings regard the play in the same light for the sake of all concerned, chiefly the victim W. A. Brady, who should, out of the simplest courtesy, have been described on the programme as an optimistic manager.

Mr. Hackett's hero is discouraged. His fortune is at the stake. His friends give him pitiful courage by the news that he is two years later to inherit a fortune. This suggestion works wonders. He develops immediately into a captain of industry. He makes a fortune, wins the rich girl of his heart and is descending their bungalow in the lamplight when the curtain falls. He has left the staircase out of the plan. But nobody believes that he needs anything more. Such a hero would mount to the 4th floor merely by the process of suggestion.

There is an amusing young married couple in the play, and after a while the husband times her. There are other incidental diversions in the three acts. But it is the force of suggestion that is strongest. Who tried it on Mr. Brady, and who in the world exercised it with such effect on the audience? Mr. Hackett? If it was, he should be saluted as a playwright of great gift.

The vivacious acting suggested the Eden Musee and a "parlor" of talking machines. Lovely Renee Kelly was Burke to the eye, but much more convincingly to the ear. Marion Lorne reproduced with photographic exactness the peculiarities of Laura Hope Crews. She did it cleverly, moreover, but no better than Wallace Worsey brought to mind James K. Hackett.

The power of suggestion is indeed to be reckoned with. Earle Brown and his head with vigor and intelligence, and the audience loved to see such an attractive lover win out. Then there was some excellent acting from Charles Lane. It did not take the power of suggestion to make the Maxine Elliott Theatre last night to make the success of these two plays.

CARUSO ILL AT OPERA.

Able to Go to Hotel—Nature of Attack Not Explained.

Enrico Caruso, the tenor, became exhausted yesterday afternoon while singing "Vesti la Giubba" at a special performance of "Pagliacci" at the Metropolitan Opera House.

After he had responded to seven curtain calls, his colleagues saw his condition. He declined aid and walked to the street without assistance. Noise in the audience was aware of the singer's indisposition.

Caruso was attended by his physician at the time he declined aid. The cause of the attack, apparently that of sudden weakness, was not made known.

DOINGS AT THE OPERA.

Mr. Caruso, the Bass Drum and Russian Music in One Day.

The uses of the extra matinee are much sweeter than those of adversity. At any rate it seemed to be so yesterday afternoon when one of these matinees took place at the Metropolitan Opera House. The offering was one of the numerous double bills in which "Pagliacci" with Mr. Caruso and his bass drum and also "The House of Bondage" with the Photo Drama Company by arrangement with the author, "The House of Bondage," which was performed by the cast customarily concerned in it this season.

Alto and Matfield were the babes in the wood, Mr. Leonhardt and Mme. Robeson were their parents and Mr. Reis was the witch.

In "Pagliacci" Mr. Caruso's assistants (in addition to the bass drum) were Mr. Destinn as Little Nedda, and Mr. Scott as Tonio. It is needless to add that Mr. Caruso played his bass drum with temper and vigor, and "and also" was the chief delight. On the occasion the tail to the kite was "Hansel and Gretel," which was performed by the cast customarily concerned in it this season.

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JAME OVERTON'S DEBUT.

Young Violinist Plays in Straightforward, Creditable Way.

Julius Overton, a young violinist, gave his first recital at Aeolian Hall yesterday afternoon. It is almost needless to say that the programme was "Rondo Capriccioso" by the programme committee. He played with the brilliant originality of a flock of sheep. For that reason it is preferable to note that Mr. Overton began with a Bach E major concerto. His second group composed three numbers by Kreisler, together with two transcriptions by the same violinist.

It was in the early part of the programme that Mr. Overton disclosed pretty clearly the quality of his art. He is young and doubtless hopeful and time may do much for him, for he has a real if not large talent. His tone is good, his intonation generally accurate, and his manner unaffected. His playing is free from most of the vices of the virtuoso. He neither sings nor sentimentalizes. He plays honestly and clearly. These convey no big personal message but at least does no violence to the music before him. When he has broadened his conception and his style, he may become an interesting soloist.

Mlle. Pouppolet Not Dead.

Through a typographical error THE SUN's account yesterday of the appearance of Mlle. Pouppolet's bronze at the Metropolitan Museum of Art referred to Mlle. Pouppolet as dead. Mlle. Pouppolet is at work in her French studio making more sculptures to be sent to America.

Renee Kelly and Earle Brown in "Don't Weaken"



ACTORS WIN INCOME TAX FIGHT.

Managers Can't Withhold 1 Per Cent. Until \$3,000 Has Been Paid.

Francis Wilson, president of the Actors Equity Association, which has recently been fighting the action of some theatre managers of withholding 1 per cent. of an actor's salary to meet the income tax, received word yesterday from Robert Williams, acting Commissioner of Income Tax at Washington, informing him that such action was not legal. The letter read:

"This office is in receipt of your telegram of January 8 protesting against the withholding of the income tax on salaries of actors by Mr. Lee Shubert, and in reply you are advised that under the law and regulations Mr. Shubert has no legal authority or right to withhold the amount of the normal tax unless the annual payment to an actor is in excess of \$3,000, and in no case must the tax be deducted and withheld until the amount of the payments reaches \$3,000.

"For the year 1913 the tax is to be withheld only when the payments since October 31 exceed \$3,000.

"A copy of this letter has been sent to Mr. Shubert to-day and he has been instructed to act accordingly."

HAMMERSTEIN STOPS BELASCO.

Gets Injunction to Prevent Movies in Republic Theatre.

The Hammerstein Opera Company, owner of the Republic Theatre, formerly the Belasco, in West Forty-second street, yesterday obtained an injunction from Supreme Court Justice Guy restraining David Belasco, who has a four years lease on the theatre, from producing anything but first class attractions there as called for by the lease. The United Film Company, which is producing "Traffic in Souls" in movies at the Republic, is joined as a defendant.

The injunction was granted on an affidavit of Oscar Hammerstein, president of the plaintiff company, to the effect that under the original lease, made in 1902 and recently extended for four years longer, Mr. Belasco was to produce only first class attractions in the theatre.

The plaintiff says that in character the pictures now presented at the Republic are similar to those recently put under the name of "Pagliacci" at the Metropolitan Opera House.

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Y. W. C. A. DELEGATES MEET.

Miss Helen Davis Talks to Them at Miss Dodge's Home.

Miss Grace Dodge received the delegates to the Y. W. C. A. convention, at her home, 262 Madison avenue, last evening. Miss Helen A. Davis, a sister of Commissioner of Corrections Katherine Bement Davis, spoke of work in out of the way parts of the country and announced that the Y. W. C. A. building, which was the woman's building at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, would be headquarters for girls who came to the fair alone.

Among those present were Mrs. William Follows Morgan, Mrs. Rogers Bacon, Miss Charlotte Stillwell, and Mrs. J. R. Glynn and Mrs. Elhu Root, Jr.

COLD CAUSING MUCH DISTRESS AMONG THE POOR.

Hundreds are appealing to us for the bare necessities of life. Some need coal, others clothing and shelter and still others food.

Many families, threatened with dispossession, need help to prevent them from being thrown out in the cold. In hundreds of ways our Relief Visitors and Nurses are relieving suffering.

These are not chronic paupers. Misfortune is responsible for their plight. They don't want charity, but a chance to be self-supporting again.

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Neglect of destitute homes leads to chronic poverty, crime or disease. These fresh burdens upon society can be avoided by every cent you contribute will be spent only for relief and ministrations.

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NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR.

R. FULTON CUTTING, Chairman Finance Committee.

CORNELIUS N. BLISS, Jr., President.

LEGISLATORS HEAR DR. KELLY ON RADIUM

Committees on Mines Attend Meeting at Secretary Lane's Invitation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—In the interests of the bill reserving lands containing radium ores Secretary Lane invited the Senate and House Committees on Mines to his office to-day to hear an address by Dr. Howard Kelly of Baltimore on the value of radium in cancer.

Among those in attendance were Senator Walsh of Montana, chairman of the Senate Committee on Mines and Mining, and Representative Foster of Illinois, chairman of the corresponding committee in the House. These committees have jurisdiction over the radium bill proposed by the Secretary of the Interior. Representative Foster is a physician and has great faith in the curative qualities of radium.

Secretary Lane said it was his view that the American people would support the policy that aims to extract from lands now in public ownership sufficient radium for use in American hospitals "in order that the poorest patients may procure promptly the treatment now necessarily limited to the selected few." He insisted that the object of the proposed legislation "is development under conditions favoring the best use of this resource, which has no value except as it is mined and used."

There will be hearings on the radium bill before the Senate and House committees on Monday. Secretary Lane, Dr. Kelly and others will appear.

A bitter fight will be made on the radium bill. Representatives of companies that are said to extract radium from ores are in Washington in opposition to the measure. Joseph A. Kelly, representing a radium manufacturing company in Pittsburgh, takes exception to a statement made by Dr. A. K. P. Harvey of this city, who has studied the use of radium as a cancer cure in France and Germany, that radium is not yet manufactured in the United States.

"It seems to me that Dr. Harvey has no knowledge of the radium situation," said Mr. Kelly. "The fact that New York State is producing radium features her final decree in three months she will marry Robert Hilliard, the actor."

CLEVELAND, Jan. 14.—Robert Hilliard, leading man of the "Gayety" company at the Opera House here, said to-night that he would marry Mrs. Olga Julia Everard Williams some time in April.

DECREE FOR MRS. WILLIAMS.

Rich Brewer's Daughter May Soon Wed Robert Hilliard.

Supreme Court Justice Van Sicken in Brooklyn yesterday awarded to Mrs. Olga Everard Williams an interlocutory decree of divorce from William Williams, the chauffeur of her father, the late Rich Brewer, who was the wealthy brewer, with whom she eloped to New Jersey.

The custody of a minor child was awarded to Mrs. Williams's mother, who lives in Stamford, Conn. Mrs. Williams is a guest at the Hotel St. Charles. She arrived in Cleveland on Monday.

GLYNN PLANS LAND BANK.

Feature of His Proposed Bill for Rural Credits.

ALBANY, Jan. 14.—Establishment of a land bank and coordination of the 250 savings and loan associations in New York State are features of the more important features of Gov. Glynn's proposed agricultural credit system, the details of which were discussed to-day at a long conference by the Governor and experts on farming and farmers' needs.

Already legislation to weld the savings and loan associations of the State into a cooperative system for the administration of the fund of the proposed system has been drafted; and it will be submitted to the congress of the State Agricultural Society to be held here next week. If approved by this society, the bill will be sent to the Legislature, backed by a special message from Gov. Glynn.

This bill will also provide for the establishment of a land bank to act as a clearing house for mortgages on farms, and to afford a medium for the facilitation of long term credits for farmers who seek to use borrowed funds for the development of their lands. It will issue guarantees, thereby giving the farmer at all times an opportunity of liquidating his assets in order to develop his lands and property.

The creation of a market commission to handle the farmers' products was another detail of the plan decided upon to-day by the Governor and his advisers. This commission is intended to act as the agent between the producer and the consumer and to eliminate the middle man.

APPROVES BARGE CANAL WORK.

Army Man Finds Construction Honestly Guarded in Interest of State.

ALBANY, Jan. 14.—State Engineer John A. Bessel received to-day the final report made by Col. Thomas W. Symons, United States army engineer appointed by Governor Sulzer as investigator of the State barge canal system, after a ten month inspection along the new waterway.

Col. Symons is probably more familiar with the conduct and progress of the barge canal than any man in the State as he has served under all State engineers since the beginning of the work in 1903. In substance Col. Symons says that the barge canal work is being guarded "honestly and honorably in the interests of the State."

Bearing out the statement of State Engineer Bessel, Col. Symons says that the barge canal work will be constructed well within the \$101,000,000 originally appropriated by a vote of the people.

Col. Symons urged upon the United States Government the necessity for pushing the work on the Troy dam so as to have it ready for barge canal business in the spring of 1916. He figures that the barge canal will be finished and ready for use in the fall of 1915 and the Government lock at Troy will be so far done as to permit of its use by canal barges even though the lock and channel be not fully completed.

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Leases now being made from May 1, 1915. The building, however, is due to be completed 2 or 3 months ahead of that date.

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ABBOT GASQUET HONOR GUEST.

Cardinal Farley Among Those at Concert at Waldorf.

The Right Rev. Francis Aidan Gasquet, D. D., O. S. B., Abbot President of the English Congregation of Benedictines, was the guest of honor last night at a concert given in the honor of the Waldorf-Astoria under the auspices of Miss Leary and other prominent Catholic men and women of society. The artists were Miss Lucretia Bori of the Metropolitan Opera Company, Miss A. J. Sarsoli, harpist, and Giovanni Martinelli.

The proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted to Abbot Gasquet's mission, which consists of work in the revision of the Latin Vulgate.

Before the concert Abbot Gasquet gave a short address on his mission. He explained that it was a search of manuscripts which he and several other Catholic clergymen appointed by Pope Pius X. are making for the purpose of establishing a more accurate text of the Bible. There is no fund to carry on this mission, said Abbot Gasquet, and the members of the order to all parts of the globe, and includes visits to the oldest libraries and cathedral archives throughout Europe. In their efforts to gather material, the Abbot said that it was the old method of transcribing the text, and also by printing, later, that a revision of these different versions was found necessary.

Abbot Gasquet gave a very interesting history of the Bible from its beginning and declared that it was the most important of all historical documents. He said that in the present age people were led to be most critical of the text and were apt to throw discredit on certain parts of it, and it was with the object in view of making a thorough search and obtaining material necessary to establish the nearest work to the original that the Pope had instituted the mission in which he was interested.

Cardinal Farley and several prominent Catholic clergymen and laymen were present. Among the patrons and patronesses who attended were Mrs. Leary, Mrs. Henry Waters Taft, Miss Iselin, Mrs. Charles Astor Bristed, W. Bourke Cockran, Thomas Hughes Kelly, Michael J. Mulqueen, Nicholas F. Brady, Mrs. John G. Agar, Mrs. William C. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Hawke, Jr., and Mrs. Jacob L. Phillips.

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THE SEAGUERS.

Large Party Sails on Liner Cleveland for 20,000 Mile Cruise.

The Hamburg American liner Cleveland, which sails to-day on a cruise of more than 20,000 miles to and from Madrid, Spain, the Mediterranean and India, carries 250 tourists from many parts of the United States and Canada. She will take aboard in Europe 15 additional passengers for the Orient and India cruise. Among those sailing from this port are:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Baker Bourne, Mr. and Mrs. Philo C. Blaisdell, Mr. and Mrs. George G. Briggs, Miss Edith Stuyvesant Culver, Miss Susan Colgate, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Downey, Mr. and Mrs. William J. Emery, Major J. L. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Alden M. Jones, Major William Kinley Jones.

LINERS IN ICE ENCRUSTED.

The Kronprinzessin Cecilie Reports Roughest Winter Trip.

All liners arriving yesterday were encrusted with ice. The Kaiser's ship, the Kronprinzessin Cecilie, reported the roughest winter trip in her memory. The Kronprinzessin got the worst of the ice when she was in Cape Sable for help for the Royal Mail liner Coburg, on Brier Island rocks, but there was a howling gale and a snow storm and the Kronprinzessin, being 200 miles away, could not offer assistance.

The Kronprinzessin was held at Quarantine until after nightfall because one of the steerage passengers, a girl of 16, had a suspicious fever. Health Officer O'Connell's bacteriological examination showed that the fever was not typhus, as suspected, and the liner was released.

Prof. Bashford Deane, curator of the John Hancock branch of the American Museum of Natural History, came with the last of the famous and costly Higgs collection presented to the museum. He said that there were very many cases and that the work of classification would be difficult. Mr. Higgs himself will soon be here from Paris to assist the professor.

Continentalists Against Celebration.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Senators Lodge and Weeks of Massachusetts presented petitions in the Senate to-day from the John Hancock branch of the American Continental League protesting against any appropriation for the celebration of the 100 years of peace with England.

SHAW ASKS \$50,000 FOR HIS "STOLEN" WIFE

Banker Sues Safe Company Head and Says He Will Ask Police to Get Her.

Robert Marsden Shaw, a young banker of 29 Broad street, who filed suit on Tuesday for \$50,000 damages against Richard Darling, president of the Acme Safe Company of 203 Broadway, on the ground that Darling has stolen his wife, Mrs. Katherine Earl Lyall Shaw, heard yesterday from his wife's uncle, Edward Drummond, a member of the New York Stock Exchange, that she was seen with Darling at the Ritz-Carlton the day the suit was filed.

Shaw told his attorney, Joseph A. Shaw, that he intended to report the case to the police and ask their aid to find his wife, because he believes she is still with Darling. Shaw is the son of Mrs. Vivian M. Shaw of Morristown, N. J., and has an office with Newburg & Co. His wife is the daughter of Mrs. E. Drummond Lyall, sister of Edward and Harwood Drummond of the Stock Exchange.

At his office yesterday Darling declared that the charge that he had eloped with Mrs. Shaw was "positively absurd." He said he met Mrs. Shaw and her husband at a tea on Fifth avenue just before Christmas and, learning that her relations with her husband were not harmonious, he met her and her mother at the Ritz-Carlton Tuesday to try to straighten the tangle.

Darling said he had nothing to do with Mrs. Shaw leaving her husband and that he has affidavits proving that Mrs. Shaw left her husband before he met the couple. He expressed his sympathy for Mrs. Shaw and said:

"It is very hard for a woman to go through this."

PINCHOT TO OPPOSE FENROSE.

Pennsylvania Progressives May Nominate Ex-Forester.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 14.—Gifford Pinchot probably will be the Progressive nominee for the United States Senate to oppose Boies Penrose, Republican incumbent, here at the convention of the Progressive party, a State wing of the Progressive party. There were 400 at the gathering, including men and women.

Pinchot, a native of Pittsburgh, Progressive National Committee member, Senator Moses E. Clapp of Minnesota and others made addresses.

State Chairman Dietrich said: "We have a thoroughgoing organization in this State from the ground up, and it's going to produce results."

Ex-Senator Samuel P. Hays in an address commended the Republican leaders for the defeat of so-called progressive legislation at the last session of the Legislature. He said that there were 125,000 Washington party voters in this State and that an appeal for funds will be made to these progressive voters.

He assailed the Republican leaders of the country vigorously, particularly Senator Boies Penrose. He referred to the Chicago convention which nominated Mr. Taft for a second term and said:

"All those who were concerned in that political theft must go to the block."

Lex N. Mitchell was chosen chairman of the Progressive conference. Mrs. Maxwell Chapman of Lackawanna and H. W. English of Pittsburgh, vice-chairmen, and B. F. Madore of Bedford, secretary.

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STUDENT TAKES BICHLORIDE.

Drug Given to Him by Friend Instead of Headache Powder.

Samuel Hurlon, an eighteen-year-old New York University student, is in a serious condition at Lincoln Hospital because of bichloride of mercury poisoning. He took the drug by mistake, thinking it was headache powder, last Thursday.

Hurlon, whose home is at 408 East 139th street, was visiting a college friend Thursday evening and said that he had a severe headache. His friend, who has access to a chemical laboratory, realized that he could easily get some headache powder and the young man left for his home with a paper of what he supposed was a headache preparation.

He took the powder and as soon as he felt the burning sensation of bichloride, called his uncle, Dr. Emil Koffer of 1709 Buitrague avenue, The Bronx, who had the young man taken to Lincoln Hospital. It was said at the hospital last night that Hurlon's condition is improving.

ARRESTED FOR SLAPPING MAN.

Woman Creates Scene in Subway Car—Court Frees Her.

William H. Headen, an automobile agent of 406 East Seventeenth street, Flatbush, had Mrs. Alice Road of 748 Sterling place, Brooklyn, arrested yesterday afternoon for slapping his face and knocking off his hat in a subway train.